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OF THE

COPPER ISSUES

OF THE

UNITED STATES' MINT

IN THE YEAR 1794.

BY EDWARD MARIS, M. D.

PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED BY WILLIAM K. BELLOWS,

Corner Fourth Street and Apple Tree Alley.

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With its acknowledged imperfections and incompleteness,
the work is respectfully inscribed to
THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

PREFACE.

As far as our means of information enable us to arrive at a conclusion, the only copper coins made at our Mint in 1794, were of the denomination of Cent and Half Cent. Of the former, the record says 918521 were issued, and 81600 of the latter. The interest excited in the minds of collectors by their variety—a consequence probably of the breakage of dies—is shared by the writer, and has resulted in this attempt to describe the most noticable peculiarity of each with sufficient accuracy to enable the careful examiner to recognize any given specimen, in a condition not below fair. This has been no easy work, as the close general resemblance which many of them bear to each other, makes it difficult to convey by the pen, points of difference readily detected by the eye. It is not claimed that every existing variety has come under examination. A pioneer work should not be expected to be thorough. On the other hand, the descriptions given were made from personal inspection of pieces now in his cabinet.

The measurements are made from the American numismatic scale—that is sixteenths of an inch. Having found but a single sample each of No's 4 and 31, they are supposed to be rare. No's 9, 17, 21, 28 and 32, are certainly quite common here.

Acknowledgment is made of valuable assistance rendered by the author's kind friend William Fewsmith of Camden, New Jersey.

The following names are proposed to distinguish the varieties of the Cent from each other.

1. '93 Head.
2. Double Chin.
3. Sans milling.
4. Tilted 4.
5. Young Head.
6. The Coquette.
7. Crooked 7.
10. Pyram'l Head.
11. Mint mk'd H'd.
12. Scarred Head.
13. Standless 4.
14. Abrupt Hair.
15. Severed Hairs.
17. The Ornate.
18. Venus Marina.
20. Fallen 4.
21. Short Bust.
23. Patagonian.
25. Nondescript.
26. Amatory Face.
28. Large Planch.
29. Marred Field.
31. Distant 1.
32. Shielded Hair.
34-6-7. The Plicæ.
38. Roman Plica.
39. '95 Head.

Philadelphia Sixth Mo. 5th. 1869.

CENTS OF 1794.

No. 1.—Head of 1793. Date 5 wide. Figures near the bust, the 4 being nearly in correct position and almost touching it. Letters of the legend "Liberty," have an indentation on the lower part of each.

Reverse. The point in the centre is between e and n in "Cent,"–nearly touching the latter. Top of n joins the top of e in "One." Stems of the wreath inclined to each other 92°. Lengths, of the left, $3\frac{1}{2}$, of the right, $3\frac{3}{4}$, from the point where they cross each other.

No. 2.—Head slightly different from the last; the hair short; the chin double. Figures of equal size and in proper position, more distant from the bust than the last. Liberty-pole extends to touch the milling.

Rev. Same as No. 1.

No. 3.—Date wide. Legend "Liberty," has the letters further apart than those previously described. Liberty-pole expanded and flattened at the end. Not the slightest trace of any milling on this side of the coin, contrasts with the reverse, which is protected by a bold and serrated elevation around the edge. I have not found any other variety of the '94 cent without milling on either side.

Rev. Same as No. 1.

No. 4.—Head resembles the first. Date $5\frac{1}{2}$ wide; the figures 179, of equal size and at equal distances: the 4 below its proper position and not straight, the top blunt–$\frac{7}{8}$ths from the bust–and the cross is prolonged downwards.

Rev. S and t of "States," close together and parallel. Stems $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{3}{4}$, inclined to each other 104°.

No. 5.—Sharp top to the figure 4 touches the bust; the 7 and 9 too near each other. R of "Liberty," very near the head. This die was cracked through the perpendicular of E, from the milling to the central elevation on the top of the head.

Rev. U and n of "United," almost touch each other at the top, and the d is out of its proper position. End of the right ribband very long and nearly touching the last 0 of the 100. The stems inclined 104°; left $3\frac{1}{2}$, right $2\frac{1}{2}$.

No. 6.—Date like the last. L of "Liberty," very near the cap. The point where the first three hairs are united below the ear, is the centre of an unusual arc formed on the neck by the wave of the hair.

Rev. Same as No. 5.

No. 7.—Date differs from those of No's 5 and 6, in the figure 7 having the tail inclined toward, instead of being parallel with the figure 1. The first and second hairs leave the neck near its lower part, while the third hair comes off just below the ear. The die was cracked transversely.

Rev. Same as No. 5.

No. 8.—*Obverse.* Same as No. 7.

Rev. In "States," the t and a are joined at the bottom. The n in "One," has the connecting line of the perpendicular prolonged at the lower extremity. Stems 4 each; Inclined 120°.

No. 9.—*Obv.* Same as No. 7.

Rev. In "States," the t is too far from the edge, and the a too near it; the latter is also remarkably out of its proper position. Left stem, $2\frac{3}{4}$, right, 3; inclined 115°.

No. 10.—Date close ; 7 parallel with 1 ; 4 sharp and not near the bust. A straight line drawn through the centre of the letter B, and the point of contact of the pole and hair, and extended, will pass through a channel made by the terminal depressions of the curls, excepting the three lowest ones.

Rev. C in "Cent," distant from the nearest leaf, 1. M in "America," and the first t in "States," not in proper position. Stems each $2\frac{1}{2}$, at an angle of 118°. Width of figures 100, 3.

No. 11.—Date wide, $5\frac{1}{2}$; figures, 1 near the hair, 4 not near the bust. Behind the ear, $1\frac{1}{2}$ distant from it, on the hair is a point. The end of the pole is sharp and touches the milling.

Rev. E in "States," f in "Of" and the first A in "America," not in good position. Stems $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{3}{4}$, inclined 119°.

No. 12.—Figure 7 too low at the top and too short. An irregular ellipsoidal depression, 3 long, below the hair brushed back of the ear, and on the hair which passes down to the back of the neck, distinguishes this variety.

Rev. The C in "Cent," too small. Stems 3 each, 110°.

No. 13.—Figure 4 has no horizontal stand. The die was broken from the edge near the end of the liberty-pole, which is grazed by the fracture, through the angle of the neck, into the cheek.

Rev. M in "America," too small and r too large. Stems 3 each ; angle 112°.

No. 14.—Figures widely separated and near the milling. "Liberty" near the milling. Two coarse hairs pass near

the liberty-cap and terminate abruptly : two termini of hairs below the cap are not connected with the hairs of the head.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{1}{4}$ each ; inclined 136°. Die broken ; one crack from the edge between a and t of "States," curves into O in "One." The other passes through d in "United," straight to the top of C in "Cent," then curves into n in "One."

No. 15.—Date and legend like the last. Termini of hairs excepting the lowest, is shown separated from the other part of the hair. The whole impression is weak.

Rev. From the end of the left stem, to the extreme left of the ribband bow, 3 ; stems 3 each ; angle 120° ; line between 1 and 100, $2\frac{1}{2}$. The die was broken, first through e in "States," toward the centre, afterwards through the first S in the same word, toward the same point.

No. 16.—*Obv.* Same as No. 15.

Rev. From the end of left stem, to the extreme left of ribband bow, 4. Left stem $3\frac{1}{2}$, right 3. Angle 110°.

No. 17.—Date 6 wide. "Liberty" indented on the lower edge, like No. 1. R from the head, and L from the cap, each $1\frac{1}{2}$. Hair brushed over the ear very prominent.

Rev. E in "One," and t in "Cent," slightly too short at the top. C and a of "America," nearly touch. Stems 3 each ; angle 108°.

No. 18.—Date like the last. "Liberty" not indented. Hair ends differently. Cap nearer the milling. Otherwise bears a strong resemblance to No. 17.

Rev. C and a of "America," not near. Stems $2\frac{3}{4}$ each. Angle 120°. Line between 1 and 100, 2. This die was cracked through the first S in "States," and toward the centre.

No. 19.—*Obv.* Same as No. 18.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{1}{2}$ each; angle 125°. The left hand wreath has one, instead of two berries opposite the top of the adjoining ribband bow. Probably unique in this respect.

No. 20.—The 7 is inclined toward the 1; the 9 near the bust; the 4 below its proper place and crowded near the 9.

Rev. Stems 3 each, inclined 110°. The dividing line of the fraction, touches the right ribband end.

No. 21.—Date close; the 4 sharp at the top and touching the bust. Hair very curly, the ear a point. From the top of the head to the end of the lowest curl, only $12\frac{1}{2}$: hence this variety has been called the *short bust* '94. A line passes transversely across the date, from 1 over 7 to the milling.

Rev. Stems 3 and $2\frac{1}{2}$, inclined 125°. The die cracked in a radius from the centre to the edge, between "Of," and "States."

No. 22.—*Obv.* Same as No. 21.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{1}{2}$ each; inclined 134°. Die cracked through U in "United" and O in "One," into the upper part of the left hand half-wreath.

No. 23.—The sharp top to the figure 4 touches the bust; the 7 is long and nearly parallel with the 1, which latter touches the hair. The Liberty cap touches the milling which is deep and serrated. Depression above the chin in profile, unusually deep, the ala of the nose prominent, and the hair coarse.

Rev. E of "One," too high. Top of t in "Cent," too low. Stems inclined 135°; left $2\frac{1}{2}$, right $2\frac{3}{4}$.

No. 24.—*Obv.* Same as No. 23.

Rev. Stems 3 and $2\frac{1}{3}$; inclined 128°. Peculiarities mentioned in the last, not found in this.

No. 25.—Date legend and cap closely resemble those of No. 18. Head the same shape, but the hair does not flow back as far just below the cap.

Rev. Deep milling—the wreath weak—the legends bold. Stems $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 3; inclined 102.° R of "America," has a remarkably long tail.

No. 26.—"Liberty" indented on the lower edge. Date has narrow figures—the 7 small and the 9 not in correct position. Physiognomy that of a lady in love. The two lower curls are shown, one of them behind and below the other. This variety is sometimes found on a large planch.

Rev. Same as No. 25.

No. 27.—*Obv.* Same as No. 26.

Rev. Stems and line between 1 and 100, $2\frac{5}{8}$ths each. Angle 118°. Ribband knot prominent.

No. 28.—"Liberty," very slightly indented on the lower edge. Milling quite delicate. Figures of equal size and moderate width. Many specimens of this variety are on planchets of the largest size.

Rev. Stems each $2\frac{1}{2}$; inclined 119°. Numerator of the fraction touches the dividing line. Lower parts of a and the last t in "States," almost join.

No. 29.—Resembles the last, excepting that the hair terminates in longer straggling locks, and the date is nearer the bust. A wedge-shaped elevation in the field, $2\frac{1}{4}$ long, opposite the termini of the 2nd and 4th hairs, distinguishes the variety.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{7}{8}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$; angle 121°. Dividing line of the fraction, 3. First t in "States," nearly joins its top to the top of the adjacent s.

No. 30.—*Obv.* Same as No. 29.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{1}{2}$, each; angle, 125°. Line between 1 and 100, $2\frac{1}{2}$. N in "United," has the top of the connecting line prolonged too far. This die was cracked between U and n, toward the centre, and again touching d, and running in the same direction.

No. 31.—Head resembles that of No. 29. Date wide; the 1 is too far from the 7. In the legend, T is not in accurate position.

Rev. Stems each $2\frac{1}{2}$; angle, 101°. M and r in "America" disproportionately large. C in "Cent," is too low.

No. 32.—"Liberty," near the cap and head. Date near the bust. Hair flowing widely back, and in most cases, each particular hair unites with the one adjoining, before terminating. Most specimens of this variety that I have seen, have a deep protecting rim on the observer's left, caused by the piece not having been struck true.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{1}{2}$, inclined 125°. Resembles the reverse of No. 30, yet having discernable points of difference. The die was cracked through the last s in "States."

No. 33.—*Obv.* Same as No. 32.

Rev. Stems 3 and $2\frac{1}{2}$; angle, 125°. No enclosed space between the ribband and stem on the observer's right; in this respect contrasting with the last. N in "United," has the peculiarity of the same letter in No. 30. The die was cracked through the letter d.

No. 34.—Several adjoining hairs are twisted together before terminating, as in the cents of 1795–6. The field is shown between the lower hair and the hair brushed back of the ear, $2\frac{3}{4}$ from the end of the latter. In the date, the 7 is longer than either of the other figures.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{3}{8}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$; angle, 125°. Line between 1 and 100, 2. A in "States," nearly touches each of the adjoining t's. An elevation on the field, looks like an interrupted continuation of the right ribband end, almost to the milling.

No. 35.—*Obv.* Same as No. 34. The die ultimately, had a quadrilateral fragment broken out from the lower border, including the figure 4.

Rev. Stems $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{8}$; angle, 117°. The peculiarities pointed out in the last, are not seen in this.

No. 36.—Head resembles that of 1795. Date and legend wide and near the bust. Hair twisted like that of No. 34, excepting that the lowest curl is turned in a sharp arc toward the date. The die was cracked from the centre of the forehead outward to the milling between T and Y.

Rev. Stems $3\frac{1}{8}$ and 3; inclined 114°. Several letters of the legend are not in proper position, especially St. commencing "States," and the last a in "America."

No. 37.—Head resembles the last. Legend commences nearer the cap. The last curl makes a larger arc in terminating and is narrower.

Rev. Same as No. 36.

No. 38.—Head closely resembles that of No. 36. The date is not so wide however, and the last curl is more like that of No. 37. The expression is one of Roman sternness.

Rev. Same as No. 31.

No. 39.—The exact head of 1795. Like the cent of that year, the legend touches the cap and nearly touches the head. Date 6 wide. The last curl does not arch around like those just described, but terminates like the tail of a domestic aquatic.

Rev. Stems each 3; inclined 103°. Each letter of the word "Cent," not correctly placed.

HALF CENTS OF 1794

First.—Date $4\frac{3}{4}$ wide, and farther from the bust than either of the others, and the 9 has the peculiarity of a sharp tail. In common with them all, the 4 is without either support or stem. A deep depression on the top of the head, where the fillet crosses. The pole ends 1 from the milling.

Rev. Stems $1\frac{3}{4}$ and $2\frac{1}{4}$, inclined at an angle of 132°. The 1 of the fraction nearly touches the left hand ribband end, which is turned aside as if to avoid it. The right ribband end, on the other hand, comes down nearly to the last 0 of the denominator of the fraction, thus requiring that its dividing line shall be short. We find this variety on planchets of different degrees of thickness; having the lettering on the edge in larger and smaller characters. The latter is on each of the others yet to be described.

Second.—Date $3\frac{3}{4}$ wide; the 9 is larger than either of the other figures; the 1 is distant from the bust and the 4 near it. Only a slight depression made by the fillet.

Rev. Similar to the last. Stems each 2; angle, 138°.

Third.—Date 4 wide; top of the figure 4 touches the bust, and the 1 is nearer it than the last. Legend "Liberty" nearer the head than either of the others. The hair brushed back of the ear, also the lower hair, unusually prominent. The head rounder and the features more blunt, than either of the others.

Rev. Same as the second.

Fourth.—Date $4\frac{1}{4}$ wide, and parallel with the lowest points of the bust—in this respect peculiar—and distant from it. The depression made by the fillet not so deep as that on either of the others.

Rev. Similar to the first. The stems are thicker and the dividing line is shorter.

Fifth.—Date 4 wide. Liberty-pole touches the milling. Two parallel curved lines are shown between the hair and the cap: the latter has two indentations on its outer border, and there is a slight depression in the field above the point of junction of the cap and hair.

Rev. Stems $3\frac{1}{8}$ and 3; inclined at an angle of 125°. The ribband ends long and nearly symetrical. The half-wreaths touch at the top.